

EQIP 2009 Grazing Ranking Tool**

Land Uses: Pasture, Wildlife

**Grazing Lands Evaluation Tool Applicants must have livestock to be eligible for consideration for this funding category. Other land uses being converted to a grazing system can be included.

National Priorities:

Questions:

Number	Question	Points
1	Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable reduction of non-point source pollution, such as nutrients, sediment, pesticides, excess salinity in impaired watersheds with total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) where available, groundwater contamination or point sources such as contamination from confined animal feeding operations?	6
2	Will the treatment you intend to implement for water conservation or irrigation efficiency using EQIP result in a considerable reduction in water use?	1
3	Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable reduction of emissions, such as particulate matter, nitrogen oxides (NOx), volatile organic compounds, and ozone precursors and depleters that contribute to air quality impairment violations of National Ambient Air Quality Standards?	1
4	Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable reduction in soil erosion and sedimentation from unacceptable levels on agricultural land?	4
5	Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable increase in the promotion of at-risk species habitat conservation?	1
6	Will the treatment that you intend to implement using EQIP result in considerable benefits to residue management, nutrient management, air quality management, invasive species management, pollinator habitat, and animal carcass management technology or pest management?	1
7	Will the treatment that you intend to implement using EQIP result in energy conservation benefits?	8
Total Points		22

State Issues:

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	Is at least 25% of the proposed contract area cropland that will be converted to grazing land?	20
	2	Does the producer already have a developed (practices selected, I&E, etc.) Prescribed Grazing (528) plan for the proposed contract unit?	15
	3	Are high animal concentration areas on pastures creating an environmental problem anytime of the year (including winter) and the producer is willing to treat them?	8
	4	Are livestock excluded or will be excluded from surface water sources (except for stable crossings) and the protected riparian buffer is or will be between 15-29 ft. and managed to benefit wildlife? (If no body of water or wetland receives points. Wider buffer receives points from next question too.)	8
	5	Will the planned treatment support the promotion of at-risk species habitat conservation as a result of adopting practices such as: Conservation Cover, Field Border, Riparian Forest Buffer, Riparian Herbaceous Cover, Access Control that creates new habitat (for buffers 30 ft. wide minimum) and the management of the area will be in accordance with NRCS practice 395, 644 or 645 so that it is beneficial to wildlife? (1 Ac minimum stream or wetland habitat)	13
	6	Is the land unit proposed for contract located in one of the sub-watersheds that NRCS is targeting due to excess sediment and nutrients?	20
	7	Is the producer a Limited Resource Farmer based on the USDA online self determination tool?	16
	8	If a contract is granted, is the applicant willing and capable of completing all proposed contract work between contract approval date and the year 2011?	10
Maximum Points: 104 Total Points			110

Selected Resource Concerns and Practices*: (See next page for additional practices)

Practice	Domestic Animals: Inadequate Quantities and Quality of Feed and Forage	Domestic Animals: Inadequate Stock Water	Fish and Wildlife: Inadequate Cover/Shelter	Fish and Wildlife: Inadequate Space
Access Control (472)			X	X
Animal Trails and Walkways (575)	X	X		
Brush Management (314)	X			
Conservation Cover (327)			X	X
Critical Area Planting (342)			X	X
Early Successional Habitat Development/Management (647)			X	X
Feed Management (592)	X			
Fence (382)	X			
Field Border (386)			X	X
Filter Strip (393)			X	X
Pasture and Hay Planting (512)	X		X	X
Pipeline (614)		X		
Pond (378)		X		
Pond Sealing - Clay Treatment (521D)		X		
Pond Sealing or Lining, Bentonite Sealant (521C)		X		
Pond Sealing or Lining, Flexible Membrane (521A)		X		
Pond Sealing or Lining, Soil Dispersant (521B)		X		
Prescribed Grazing (528)	X	X	X	X
Pumping Plant (533)		X		
Riparian Forest Buffer (391)			X	X
Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)			X	X
Spring Development (574)	X	X		
Stream Crossing (578)		X		
Stream Habitat Improvement and Management (395)			X	X
Subsurface Drain (606)		X		
Tree and Shrub Establishment (612)			X	X
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)			X	X
Underground Outlet (620)		X		
Water Well (642)		X		
Watering Facility (614)		X		
Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)			X	X
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)			X	

**Practices listed above may have changed. Check with your local field office or EQIP Program Manager. See the EQIP Program Website at <http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/eqip/index.html>*

Selected Resource Concerns and Practices*: (See next page for additional practices)

Practice	Soil Erosion: Classic Gully	Soil Erosion: Sheet and Rill	Soil Erosion: Streambank
Access Control (472)			X
Access Road (560)	X		
Animal Trails and Walkways (575)	X	X	X
Brush Management (314)	X	X	
Conservation Cover (327)	X	X	X
Critical Area Planting (342)	X	X	X
Diversion (362)	X	X	
Fence (382)	X	X	X
Grassed Waterway (412)	X		
Heavy Use Area Protection (561)		X	
Lined Waterway or Outlet (468)	X		
Mulching (484)			X
Pasture and Hay Planting (512)	X	X	X
Prescribed Grazing (528)	X	X	
Residue Mgmt-No-Till/StripTill/Direct S (329)		X	
Riparian Forest Buffer (391)		X	X
Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)		X	X
Spring Development (574)		X	
Stream Crossing (578)			X
Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580)			X
Structure for Water Control (587)	X		
Subsurface Drain (606)	X	X	
Tree and Shrub Establishment (612)			X
Underground Outlet (620)	X	X	
Water and Sediment Control Basin (638)	X		
Watering Facility (614)	X	X	X

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Selected Resource Concerns and Practices*:

Practice	Water Quality: Excessive Nutrients and Organics in Groundwater	Water Quality: Excessive Nutrients and Organics in Surface Water	Water Quality: Excessive Suspended Sediment and Turbidity in Surface Water
Access Road (560)			X
Animal Trails and Walkways (575)		X	X
Brush Management (314)		X	
Conservation Cover (327)	X	X	X
Critical Area Planting (342)			X
Deep Tillage ((324)			
Diversion (362)	X	X	X
Feed Management (592)	X	X	
Fence (382)		X	X
Field Border (386)		X	X
Filter Strip (393)	X	X	X
Grade Stabilization Structure (410)			X
Grassed Waterway (412)	X	X	X
Heavy Use Area Protection (561)	X	X	X
Hedgerow Planting (422)		X	X
Lined Waterway or Outlet (468)		X	X
Pasture and Hay Planting (512)		X	X
Nutrient Management (590)	X	X	X
Pipeline (516)		X	X
Pond (378)		X	X
Pond Sealing or Lining, Bentonite Sealant (521C)	X		
Pond Sealing or Lining, Flexible Membrane (521A)	X		
Pond Sealing or Lining, Soil Dispersant (521B)	X		
Prescribed Grazing (528)	X	X	X
Riparian Forest Buffer (391)	X	X	X
Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)	X	X	X
Stream Crossing (578)		X	X
Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580)			X
Structure for Water Control (587)			X
Subsurface Drain (606)		X	X
Tree and Shrub Establishment (612)		X	X
Underground Outlet (620)		X	X
Vegetated Treatment Area (635)	X	X	X
Water and Sediment Control Basin (638)		X	X
Watering Facility (614)		X	X

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